

**Minutes of the 699th meeting of Toft Parish Council
Meeting held on Monday 3 March 2014 in The People's Hall, Toft at 7.00 pm**

Present: Councillors: M Yeadon (Chairman), J Betson, J McCarten, E Dolman and P Gouldstone.

In attendance: 2 members of the public and Mrs Kathleen Baptie (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services)

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

A resident enquired about the Bourn Brook meeting. Cllrs Yeadon and Betson who attended the meeting reported on the habitat, invasive species and the voluntary work carried out. There was very little information on the effect the Cambourne development had on surrounding water courses and the Environment Agency took these concerns away with them. The meeting was informed that there would be no run off from the Bourn Airfield development if it were to go ahead. The Environment Agency is responsible for the Brook up to Toft bridge and from there towards Cambridge it is a lower priority. The Brook has not been dredged for 10yrs, but it was noted that many farmers have carried out work recently.

1. To approve apologies and reasons for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies were received from Cllr Ellis-Evans (work commitments) and District Cllr Tumi Hawkins.

1.1 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda

Cllrs McCarten and Dolman declared an interest in item 4.2 as signatories of the fund.

1.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)

None.

1.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

None.

2. To approve the minutes of the last meetings on 3 February 2014

RESOLVED ^(Prop ED, 2nd PG) that the minutes of the meeting on 3 February be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Clerk's report - Noted.

3.2 (3.2) Community Land update including recommendation from working group as to work required

Cllr Yeadon will ask Cllr Ellis-Evans to progress the clearing of the ditch and cutting back as it will soon be nesting season.

3.3 (3.3) Recreation ground – to consider quotes for spiking the ground and tree works

RESOLVED to accept the quote from Purse Turfcare at £467. ^(Prop PG, 2nd MY, unanimous)

3.4 (3.4) People's Hall internal improvements project update, cash flow analysis and to agree any next steps

It was noted that a grant application to the Arts Council was unsuccessful, but they were hopeful of getting the WREN grant. The project group are meeting next week.

3.5 (7.3) Footpaths and Waymarker signs – to consider the quotation for putting in posts.

Cllr McCarten reported that there is still £200 left over from the Parish Paths Partnership grant. RESOLVED to accept Clive Blower's quote of up to £140 for labour and approximately £35 for materials, and also the cost of collection at £20 per hour. ^(Prop JM, 2nd ED, unanimous) Cllr McCarten has applied for 2 new posts and discs.

3.6 Registration of allotments land – to appoint persons to act for Parish Council and to be applicant and to ascertain the value of the land

Cllr Dolman reported that there is no proof of ownership and no original deed. The only record of the land is in the University Library which she has taken a copy of.

RESOLVED to seek the help of one or two residents within the village with regard to valuing the land and witnessing signatures.

- 3.7 Overhanging trees and hedges to consider the quotation received from Peter Oakes
RESOLVED to accept Peter Oakes quotation of £240 + vat. (Prop PG, 2nd MY, unanimous)

3.8 (7.2) Anglian Water pumping station update

Cllr Gouldstone advised that she has telephone Anglian Water and they had confirmed they will repair the verges as they were. RESOLVED to write to Anglian Water confirming that they have committed to reinstate the verges by the pumping station in Brookside and clear the road of mud.

3.9 Minor Highway Improvements Scheme

It was noted that the Parish Council had not been successful in its bid.

3.10 SCDC Local Hero Awards

Nominees had been invited to attend the award ceremony at Cambourne Village College. Cllr Dolman will liaise with those involved.

4. Consideration of Correspondence

- 4.1 The Council to consider the implications of the Repeal of section 150(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 and its safe and efficient arrangements for the safeguard of public money

RESOLVED (Prop MY, 2nd ED, unanimous) that the Parish Council keep to the current arrangements.

- 4.2 Toft Community Fund – to consider if the Council should receive and handle the money in accordance with any trust placed upon it.

The Clerks advice that the Parish Council could receive the funds which could be earmarked for donations in accordance with any terms and conditions placed upon it, was noted. The next step is for the Toft Community Fund group to decide how they wish to proceed. If they wish to transfer the fund, the Parish Council would have to agree the mechanisms for granting donations.

- 4.3 SCDC Community Chest grant award for the refurbishment of the village sign

It was noted that the Community Chest Grant application submitted by the Clerk on the Council's behalf had been successful and this will cover 100% of the refurbishment. Mr Stebbings has been notified that the sign is ready for collection.

- 4.4 The Ramblers' request for an update on the bench installation

The Chairman will ask Cllr Ellis-Evans to consider this along with the work to be carried out at the Community Land.

5. Finance and risk assessment

- 5.1 To consider the finance report and approve the payment of any bills

RESOLVED to receive the financial report and check the invoices and bank statements before the cheques were signed. The payments as listed in the finance report plus £286.64 LGS Services (Admin Support) and £15 Martin Sebborn (Website renewal) were unanimously approved for payment. (Prop MY, 2nd JB).

Salaries		£126.70
Toft People's Hall	Hall Hire	£12.00
LGS Services	Admin Support	£559.35

- 5.2 To consider any matter which is urgent because of risk or health and safety

RoSPA had previously recommended that the matting around the Supernova play equipment be lifted and re-laid. Since the Council seem to be getting nowhere with Kompan it was RESOLVED that they should abandon further attempts to contact them and instead try to resolve the drainage problem and consider extending the barking area at a later stage.

- 5.3 Play inspection report – to consider the report and any recommendations

Discussed earlier.

6. To consider any Planning or Tree works applications received6.1 Planning Applications

None

6.2 SCDC decisions to note

None

6.3 Tree works applications

None

7. Members items and reports7.1 Highways and Village maintenance report

RESOLVED that the Parish Council write to Sharon Maloney, Highway Supervisor, confirming what has been agreed i.e. the issues she would endeavour to resolve;

- To alleviate the drainage problems on both sides of the High Street by jetting and also outside Cambridge Electron Beam.
- To replace the missing road sign on the bend in the High Street.
- To reinstate the verges in Church Road, after Mike Tebbitt has cleaned up after building work, and also to repair the pot holes and drainage.
- To repair the pot holes and culvert in Millers Rd and also put in plantings along the edges.
- Will cut back the grass which is encroaching the path on Cannors Close.
- To reinstate the yellow lines in School Lane.

8. Closure of meeting

The next Annual Parish Council meeting will take place on 12th May and the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 20th May at 8pm. Invitations are to be sent to the Police, both head teachers and both vicars.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

SignedChairmandate.
